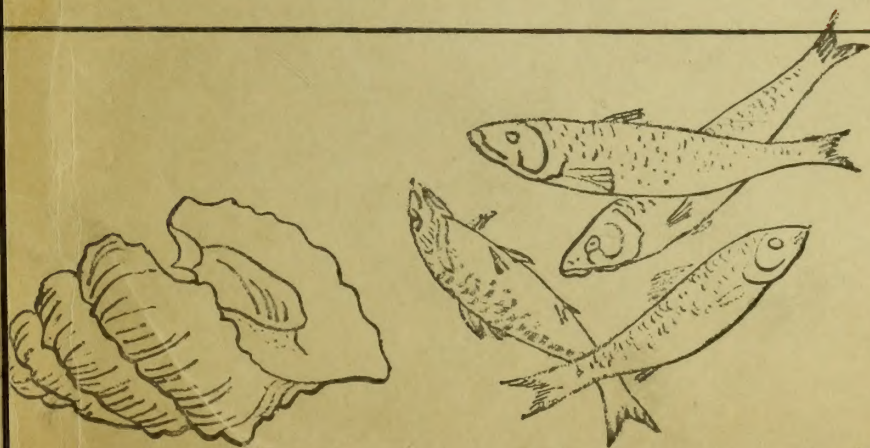
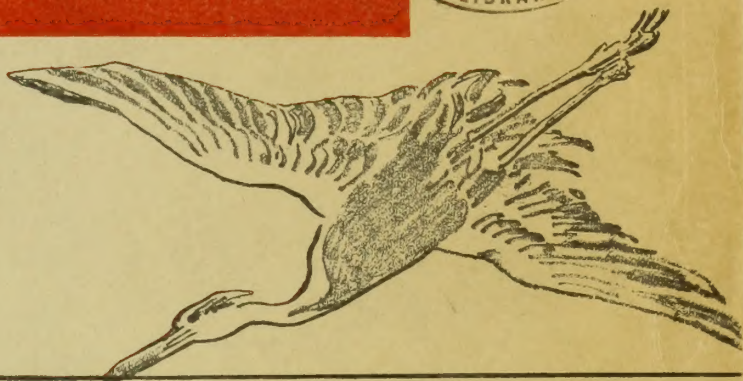
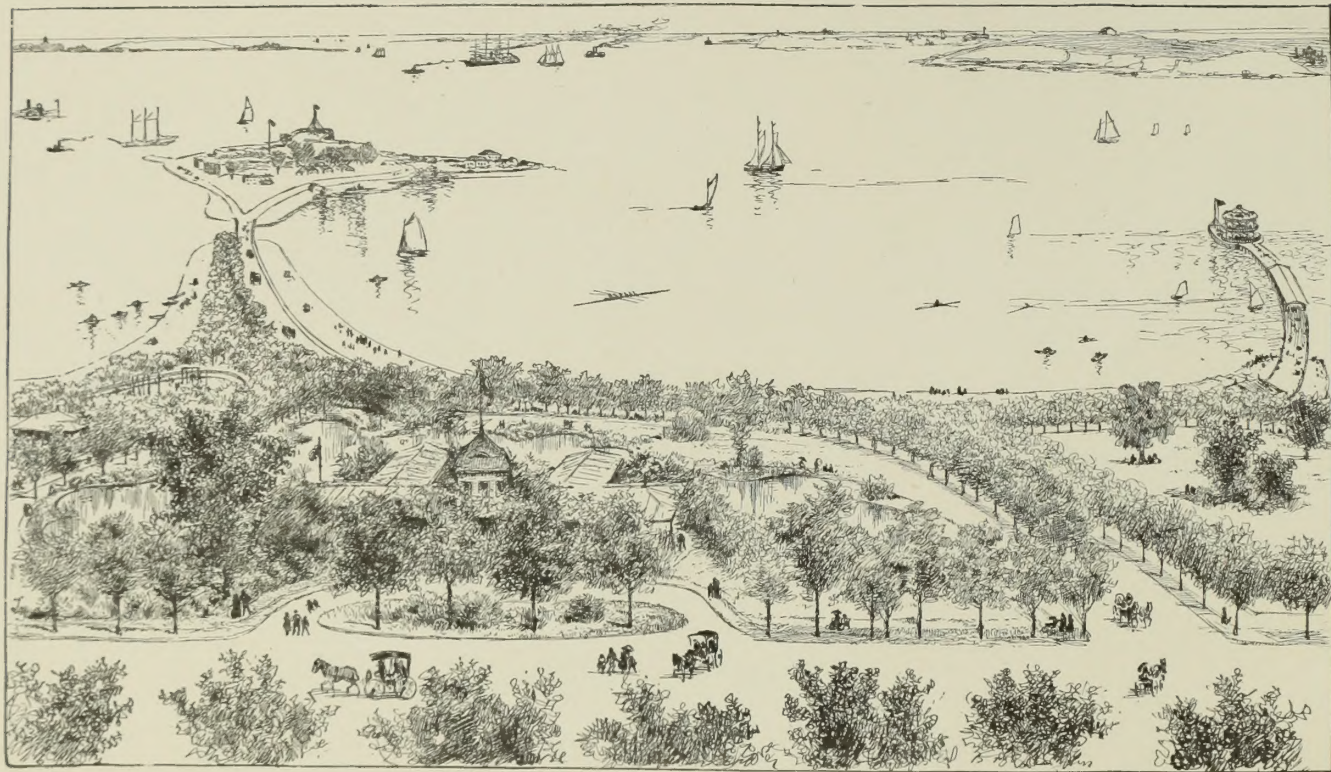


ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS AND AQUARIA FOR BOSTON - AN APPEAL

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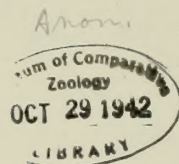


PROPOSED MARINE AQUARIUM AND PARK, SOUTH BOSTON.

Zoölogical Gardens and
Aquaria for Boston
An Appeal

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1891



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* * * The design of the cover is arranged by Mrs. Whitman ; the illustrations of animals are lent by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. and others.



ZOÖLOGICAL GARDENS AND AQUARIA FOR BOSTON



THE Reports of the Park Commissioners and of the Natural History Society have informed the public from time to time of certain movements on foot to secure for Boston suitable

Zoölogical Gardens and Aquaria. It is the purpose of this circular to announce the completion of the general plans, and to show the practicability and desirability of establishing these institutions under the most favorable auspices.

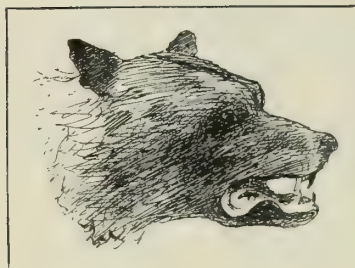


These plans have been worked out with the greatest care by those most familiar with such establishments elsewhere, and most competent to judge how they can be developed to serve the best interests of the community. Foreign institutions have been copied only so far as they are best adapted to our wants, and at every step the interests of the general public and of education have been independently studied, as well as the best methods of exhibiting natural objects and their modes of life.

The establishment is to be divided into three distinct departments, in accordance with a natural distribution of organic forms; and incidentally a great advantage will thereby be gained, since the inhabitants of different parts of the city will be brought into near proximity to some part of the ground occupied. These three

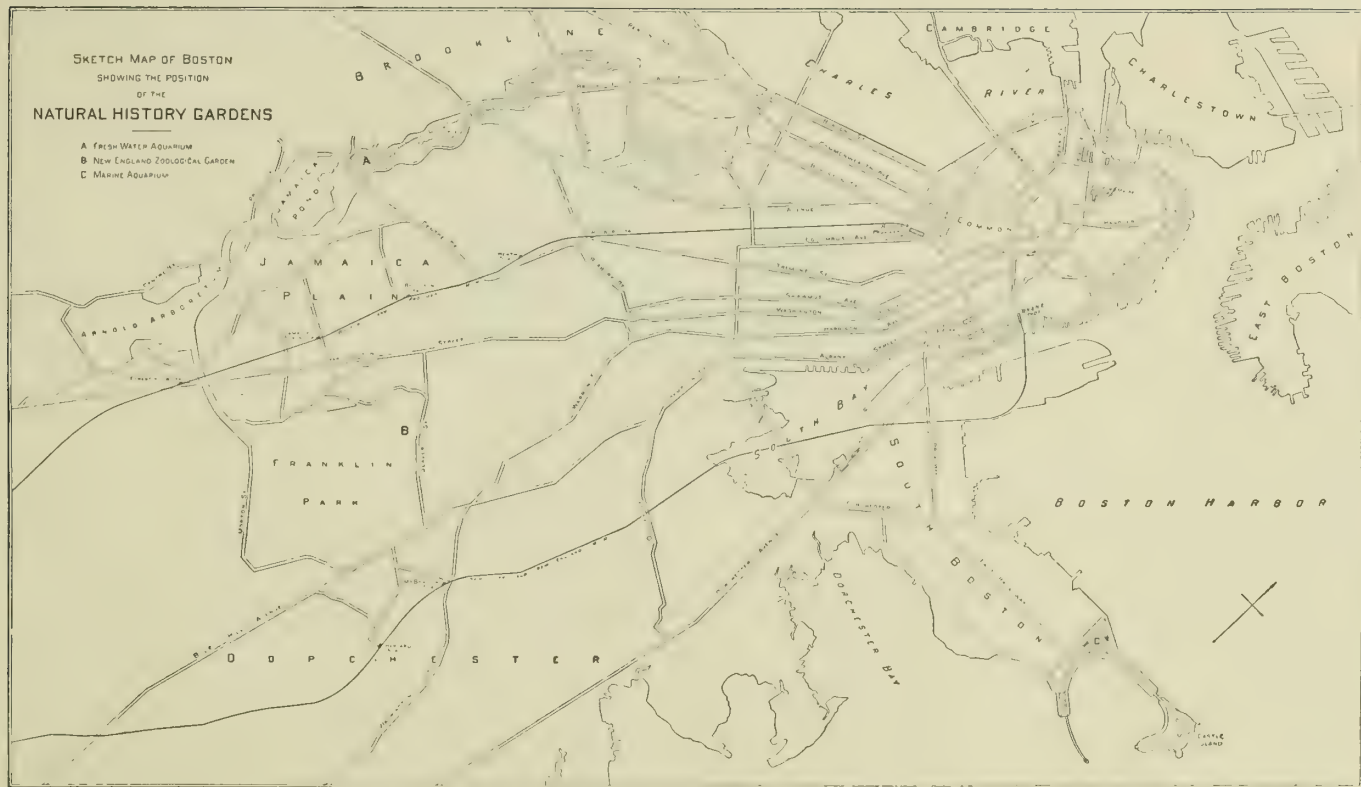
divisions are to be placed at Franklin Park, in the neighborhood of Jamaica Pond, and at City Point.





SKETCH MAP OF BOSTON
SHOWING THE POSITION
OF THE
NATURAL HISTORY GARDENS

- A Fresh Water Aquarium
B New England Zoological Garden
C Marine Aquarium





THE NEW ENGLAND ZOÖLOGICAL GARDEN AT FRANKLIN PARK

THIS is to be installed on the city side of the Playstead at Franklin Park in a charming bit of rocky woodland of about twenty acres with very diversified surface, called Long Crouch Woods, a piece of land which, on account of its lack of water, is only suitable for the exhibition of terrestrial and

aerial animals. A collection of tropical or sub-tropical quadrupeds and other vertebrates could not be kept up here without an expenditure far too great to be undertaken in the initiation of an enterprise as varied and extensive as the present. It is deemed best, therefore, to exhibit fully only the animals of the North Tem-



perate zone of America, and thus to display to the best advantage those which one might see within the northern United States. As it is easier to obtain and maintain the animals from near home, by far the larger part of this collection will at all times be made up of those now or once natives of New England; but side by side with our native animals a few of the corresponding types from other quarters of the globe will be shown, in order to illustrate some of the more important features of the general distribution of life on the earth.

An Insectary is also proposed in connection with this division, in which the transformations of our larger insects can be seen, and their ways of life, many of which are very interesting, can be followed; ants can be made to reveal to the curious visitor their hidden ways and to teach wisdom, and the processes of ex-

perimentation for scientific purposes can be made intelligible to the public.

Much of this will be an object of interest only or mainly during the warmer season, but a winter garden under glass is also projected, where one may walk in a comfortable, well-lighted inclosure in which the varied vegetation, the ponds and fountains with their inhabitants, the songs of birds, and the pleasing habits of curious strange creatures will tend to make him forget the wintry surroundings.







THE FRESH-WATER AQUARIUM AT WARD'S POND



PIECE of land adjoining Ward's Pond north of Jamaica Pond, and covering about fourteen acres, with ample room and opportunities for ponds and running water, has been secured for the Fresh-Water Aquarium, which will include not sim-

ply creatures that inhabit the water, but also those which live upon or near its banks. A Fish-hatchery may have its place here, and also a small Insectary to illustrate the transformations of those insects which are aquatic in early life, but afterwards crawl up the stems of water



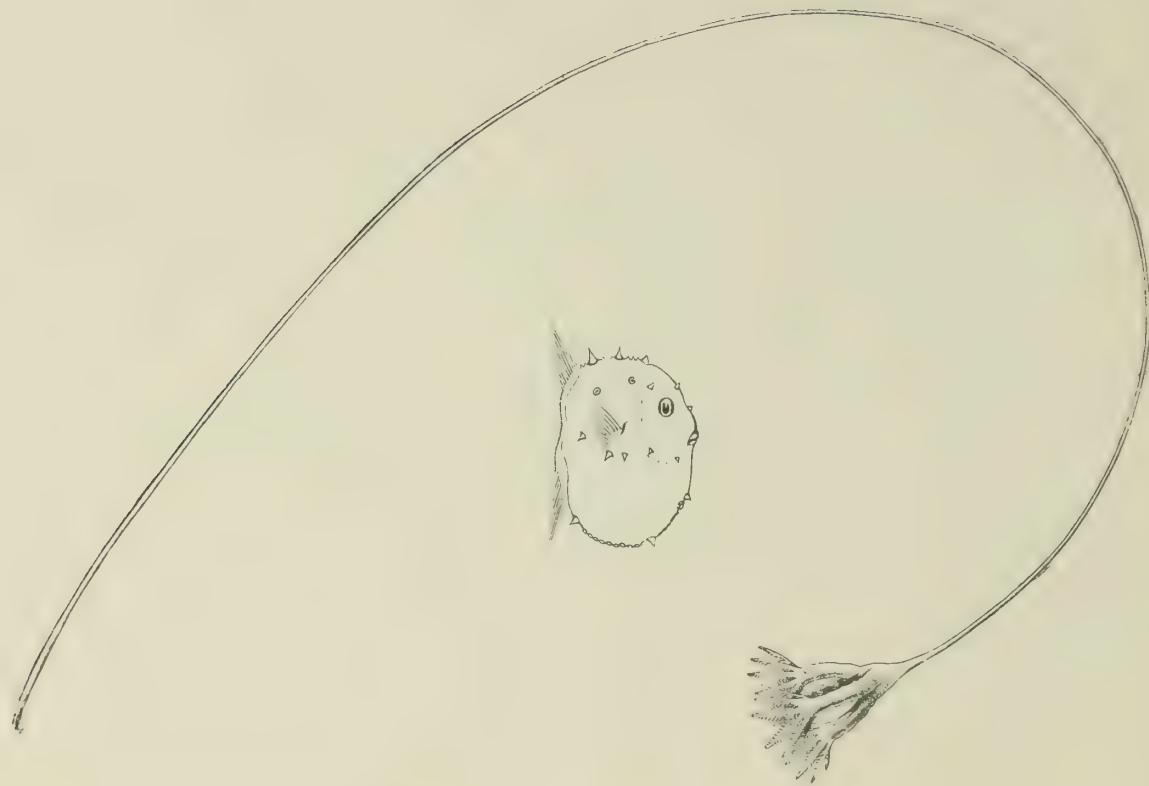
plants, and by means of curious changes of structure finally become suited for flying in the air.

Fresh-water animals and plants are modified descendants either of marine or terrestrial organisms, and it is intended to exhibit this striking but rarely considered fact by series of living objects side by side. Even the steps of the transformations by which certain shrimp-like, brine-inhabiting animals become fitted for living in fresh water can be directly exhibited in a series of aquaria. The educational value of such displays, which have not, so far as we know, been attempted in similar popular exhibitions, is obvious.

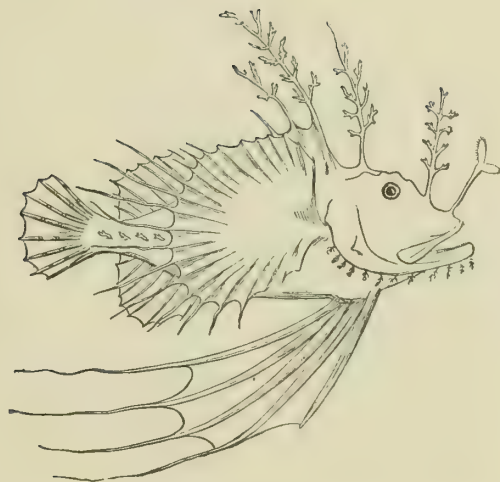
This division of the Garden does not require strict limitation, and there will be room enough to make the display of animals sufficiently extensive to include not a few of such tropical

and subtropical forms as will bear a winter confinement; and nothing short of the necessary public support need prevent this division from becoming not only the first in New England but one of the most important in the world.





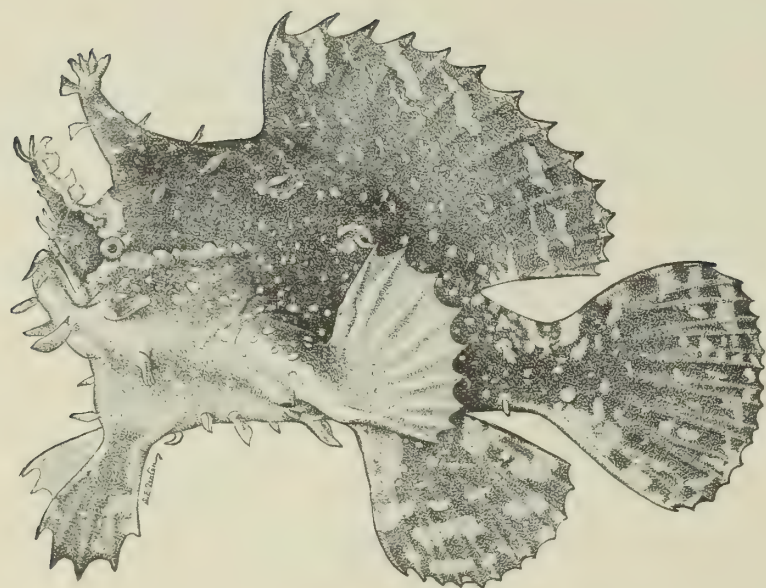
- A Marine Aquarium
- B Bathing Houses
- C Bathing Beach
- D Site for Boat Houses
- E Gymnasium for Women and Girls
- F Gymnasium for Men and Boys
- G Orchestra
- H Pier Head



THE MARINE AQUARIUM AT CITY POINT

IN the territory at City Point, now being reclaimed from the sea by the Park Commissioners, is another spot of about eight acres bordering upon the par-

tially inclosed bay at the Marine Park. This affords a good opportunity for salt-water pools and basins of considerable size, suitable for seals and the smaller Cetacea, — dolphins, por-

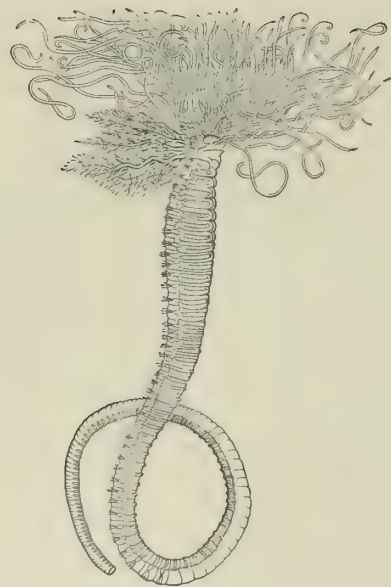


poises, and white whales, — and also for wading birds and all such animals as frequent the borders of the sea and can be most advantageously shown in the open air.

The more varied and interesting collections will be placed in aquaria protected by a suitable building. The visitor will first enter a hall devoted to the exposition of the relations of animals and plants to their surroundings, together with a small synoptical collection which, by the aid of dissections and proper guides, will unfold the differences between the great groups of animals and marine plants, and the correlations between their habits and natural surroundings and also between these and their structure. The suitability of organisms to do the work they have to perform will be illustrated in many ways, and clear ideas of some of the fundamental laws of organic modi-

fication will be presented to intelligent visitors and students. Thus, the changes which have taken place in the structure of the descendants of air-breathing land animals in order to fit them for life in the sea will be abundantly illustrated.

The main collection will show in separate groups the animals found associated in the different oceanic areas and in the distinct zones of life found between the shore and the deep sea. Here again only the measure of the success attending the undertaking will mark the limit to which it will be possible to go in displaying the inhabitants of distant waters. The fauna south of Cape Cod is in large part easy of acquisition, the animals exceedingly varied and even brilliant, and they would be well represented in special series of aquaria. Our own marine fauna and flora will be kept apart and



in the foreground, and its exhibition will astonish all but the professional naturalist with its strangeness and beauty, while even he will receive new revelations of its extent and significance. It is believed that neither of the other

divisions can compete with this in the novelty, variety, and attractiveness of its displays. As the halls will be lighted only through the aquaria, the visitor will observe the creatures as if himself beneath the sea.







CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THEY CAN BE ESTABLISHED

THE plan of establishing such Gardens has been before the Natural History Society for more than twenty years, during all of which time a special committee

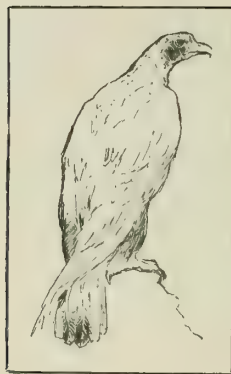
has had the matter in charge; but it is only within a few years, since the Park Commissioners were found to be independently entertaining similar plans, that any prospect seemed to



be open for the practical consummation of our hopes. The correspondence between the Society and the Commissioners will be found in the several Reports of the latter body from 1887. The commissioners have set apart the three parcels of land referred to above for the purposes mentioned, whenever the friends of the Society shall have raised for the establishment and endowment of the Gardens and Aquaria the sum of two hundred thousand dollars. The Council of the Society has further been authorized by the Society at large to proceed with such establishment whenever the sum named has been raised for that express purpose, with certain provisions which guarantee the integrity of the funds. Convinced that it would not be wise to attempt to begin with the three proposed divisions at the same time, the Council

further obtained consent to the beginning of operations at City Point with the same provisions as before, whenever one third of the required sum shall have been obtained.



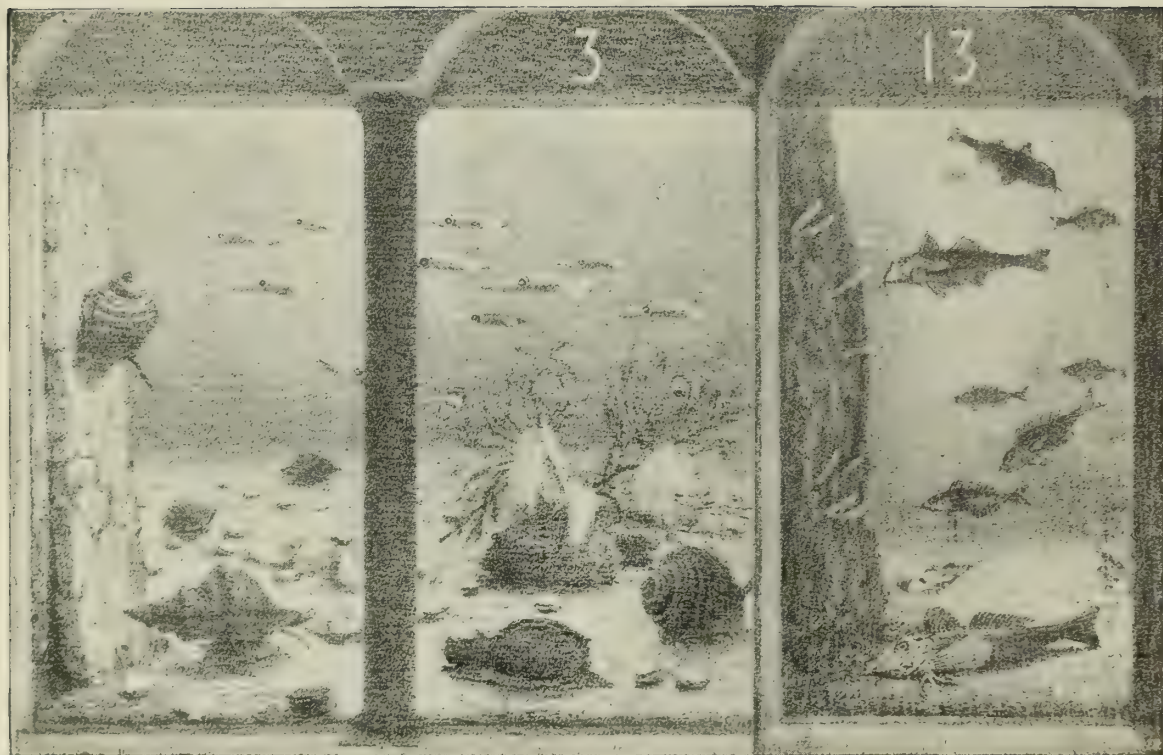




THE BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY THEIR PROPER GUARDIAN

OUR Natural History Society is an institution well known to the Boston public. It celebrated its semi-centennial ten years ago. It was through its initiative that the State Survey in the last generation was instituted, and its members were selected to carry it out; this they did to such good purpose that it has served as a model to other

States, and some of the works produced are regarded as classics. The Society obtained from the State the land on which its building now stands, and it has so well merited the confidence of the citizens of Boston that it has received large endowments from them, and notably the means of building its present home. It has taken a prominent and effective



TANKS IN THE NAPLES AQUARIUM

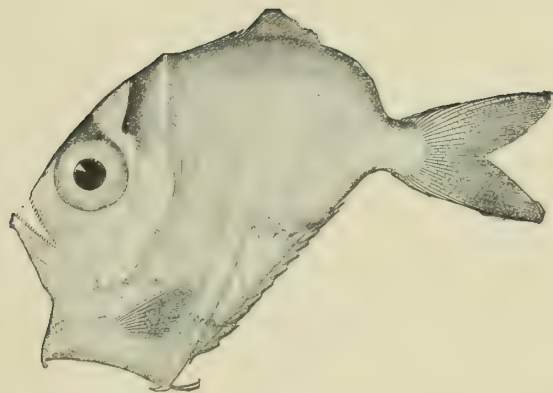
part in educational matters, as the reports of the Superintendent of Schools and the Supervisors will testify. It also places freely before the public its treasures accumulated through decades of hard work and arranged with rare skill. No other institution of the kind in the country has manifested its activity in so many ways or with greater success.

If such an establishment as the proposed Gardens and Aquaria is to be anything more than a mere pleasure ground, either a new organization, expressly established for the purpose, must be formed, or the work must be undertaken by one already equipped. It is believed that besides the saving of the cost and labor of a new organization, the confidence of the public, without which the undertaking is impossible, will be extended with greater freedom to a Society that has already proved its

usefulness and its power to undertake a work which is only an extension of its present operations. The Society, however, has no funds to use in this direction, all that it now controls being trust-funds devoted solely to such work as it has already in hand. It has, therefore, by a distinct vote determined that the new undertaking must be supported through funds obtained for that express purpose.

It is only just and proper to state that the Society and its officers have entered upon this undertaking with no desire or object beyond a feeling of duty to the public, and they have freely contributed much valuable time and labor towards the attainment of this great addition to the cause of public education and enjoyment in Boston; success can give satisfaction, but remuneration is not possible.

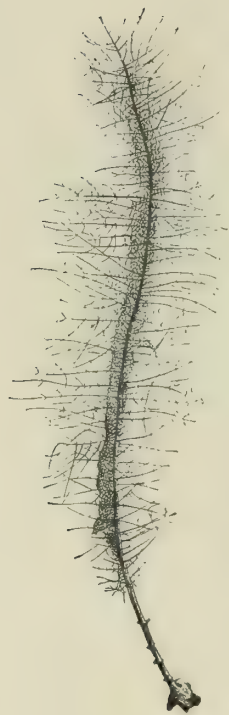




PUBLIC ADVANTAGES TO BE GAINED

THE interest taken by the general public in our natural history museums must be seen to be appreciated ; and if dead creatures and their bare skeletons can attract multitudes of visitors, of how much

deeper interest will living creatures prove. Such an exhibition will give the city child, whose knowledge of the world about him is so pitifully meagre, a new and vivid enjoyment. It will offer a healthful and instructive pastime



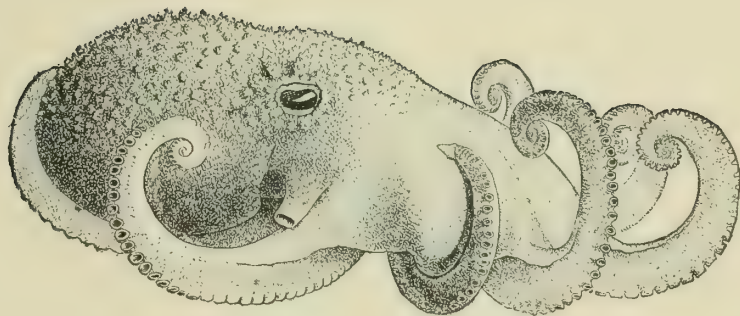
to many otherwise destined to become idlers. It will open the eyes of all to the wonders and attractions of earth, air, and sea, and be a source of strength and life to the recovering invalid. It will plant deep in the hearts of the people a simple love of Nature, which, like all refining influences, will become a corrective of mischief and wrong, and a source of pure enjoyment. In the crowd of entertainments catering in a greater or less degree to evil passions, it will afford a nobler and purer, because simpler and healthier, amusement. To many it will be the beginning of a new and natural life, while to the student of the laws of Nature it will offer unparalleled fields for investigation.

The establishment of such institutions under the immediate auspices of the Natural History Society, and upon grounds leased of the Park

Commissioners for the special purposes herein set forth, is a distinct assurance they will be so conducted as to merit the approval of all good citizens; and we confidently anticipate that when it has been shown what these establishments can fairly do they will be the recipients of the utmost favor from those who possess the means for their endowment.







WILL BOSTON RESPOND?

IT is proposed to begin with the Marine Aquarium at City Point, since it is nearer the centre of population, and will be on the whole the most attractive and novel of the three divisions. Its situation can

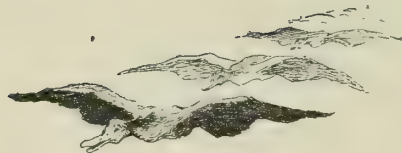
be seen on the accompanying plan. It is easily reached. In a very short time the ground will be ready for the erection of the needed buildings, but no step requiring outlay can be taken until one third of the final two hundred



thousand dollars is obtained ; and it is hoped that many friends, new and old, of the Boston Society of Natural History, of the cause of education, and of this particular mode of instructing and elevating the masses, will respond with their contributions. It is no sense a scheme for the enrichment of those interested in it. Every means will be taken to have it grow by its own strength, and every gain will only enrich and enlarge it and its power of instruction and enjoyment. No cause not purely charitable appeals to so many classes and conditions of men. All employers of men and women must be anxious to provide so commendable a source of rational enjoyment and recreation for themselves and for their employees. Every one interested in education must feel a responsive chord vibrating in his heart. Every public-spirited citizen will see in it an addition

to the forces which increase the intelligence of the voter and thereby tend to make Boston a more desirable place of residence.





IT is hoped that this simple statement of facts will answer all the purposes of a more elaborate appeal; but any further information will be gladly given by the Secretary of the Society, Dr. J. Walter Fewkes, who may be addressed at the Society's Museum on Berkeley Street, or by the Treasurer, Mr. Charles W. Scudder, whose office is at 4 Post Office Square, and to whom contributions and

pledges may be sent, or by any member of the Council whose names are hereto appended.

The Society will also gladly welcome to its membership any willing to aid in this enterprise, and offers to all a share and an interest in the work it has on hand. Correspondence or personal application in this direction is desired, and may be addressed to the Secretary or to any member of the Council.

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* * A letter from the Council to the Park Commissioners, giving fuller details as to what is proposed to show in the three exhibits at Franklin Park, Jamaica Pond, and Marine Park, can be had on application to the Secretary.



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